(b) Data regarding value of stores rejected and settled at price reduction and that finally rejected at users' end is not being maintained. However, the value of stores rejected finally at users' end in respect of stores inspected by Inspection Wing of DGS&D is given below:—

1989-90	Rs. 11.00 lakhs
1990-91	Rs. 23.00 lakhs
1991-92	Rs. 17.00 lakhs

(c) In so far as DGS&D Inspection is concerned the time schedule prescribed/laid down with regard to inspection of stores and release of inspection notes has been generally met.

Commitments by Russia for Supply of Goods and Equipments

4227. SHRI AJIT P. K JOGI:
CHOWDHRY HARI SINGH:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

es030(a) whether it is a fact that Russian is backing out from their commitments and many articles, equipments and goods promised by former Soviet Union have found way to hard currency areas;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have taken up the matter with successor states of Soviet Union;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBU TION WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) and (b) Following dissolution of the former Soviet Union, the Government of Russia and evinced interest in modifying a number of agreements between India and the former Soviet Union. As a consequence, a new agreement on trade and economic co-operation was signed between India and Russia on May 4, 1992. This agreement provides for all payments in settlement to be effected in freely convertible currencies unless otherwise specified by any intergovernmental agreement. Subsequently an agreement was reached delineating repayments through exports of commodities by India of the debts that it owed to the former Soviet Union. The trade and economic cooperation agreement also provides for trade to be carried on the basis of counter trade or any other internationally recognised form of business cooperation.

(c) to (e) Do not arise.

Estimate for Quantity of Fluecured Tobacco available in A.P.

4228. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Tobacco Board has made any estimate of the total quantity of fluecured tobacco available in Andhra Pradesh at the beginning of the seasons during this year; and

(b) the total quantity of this fluecured tobacco purchased in Andhra Pradesh at various auction platforms run by Tobacco Board during this calender year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 125.60 M. Kgs of 1992-93 AP. crop was marketed at various auction platforms in AP

Abolition of Minimum Export Prices for Agricultural Commodities

4229. SHRI V.HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have announced the abolition of Minimum Export Prices for certain agricultural commodities;

(b) the names of all these commodities whose M.E.P. was removed during this financial year;

(c) what are the reasons for this policy;

(d) what crops from Andhra Pradesh have thus been affected; and

(e) whether the farmers in Andhra Pradesh would pay a steep price for removal of the M.E.P.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBU-